

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A synchronous information reproduction apparatus comprising:

a receiving section that is provided for sequentially receiving a clock signal;

a storing section that is provided for storing object information to be sequentially reproduced from a series of reproduction points;

a reproduction point generating section that is provided for generating location information indicative of a reproduction point of the object information stored in the storing section;

a reproducing section that is provided for reading and reproducing the object information from the storing section based on the reproduction point generated by the reproduction point generating section;

a synchronizing section that is provided for synchronizing an incremental speed of the reproduction point generated by the reproduction point generating section with a reception timing of the clock signal based on a reception time interval of the clock signals; and

an outputting section that is provided for outputting contents of the object information reproduced by the reproducing section; and

a reproduction point correcting section that is provided for measuring a time duration from a start of reproduction process of the object information by the reproducing section until an actual output of the object information from the outputting section, and for correcting the reproduction point in accordance with the measured time duration.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (original): The synchronous information reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a control section operative when a command by a user, an out of synchronism between the clock signal and the object information, or a stop of supply of the clock signal is detected, for suspending the operation of the synchronizing section, and for controlling the reproduction point generating section to generate the reproduction point at a predetermined incremental speed.

Claim 4 (original): The synchronous information reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein selection of the object information stored in the storing section and control of the reproduction process of the object information by the reproducing section are carried out in accordance with an externally supplied signal.

Claim 5 (original): The synchronous information reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the object information is divided into a series of blocks in correspondence with a series of the clock signals.

Claim 6 (original): The synchronous information reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the clock signal is provided from an external music equipment.

Claim 7 (original): The synchronous information reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the clock signal is provided in the form of a timing message contained in MIDI data.

Claim 8 (original): The synchronous information reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the object information has multimedia contents selected from an image, a music waveform and a voice.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A synchronous information reproduction apparatus comprising:

- a storing section that is provided for storing a plurality of object information;

- a reproduction point generating section that is provided for generating location information indicative of respective reproduction points of the plurality of the object information stored in the storing section;

- a reproducing section that is provided for reading and reproducing the plurality of the object information concurrently with one another from the storing section based on the respective reproduction points generated by the reproduction point generating section;

- an outputting section that is provided for outputting contents of the plurality of the object information reproduced by the reproducing section; and

- a reproduction point correcting section that is provided for measuring a time duration of each object information from a start of reproduction process of the object information by the reproducing section ~~til~~ until an actual output of the object information from the outputting section, and for correcting the respective reproduction points of the plurality of the object information in accordance with the measured time duration of each object information.

Claim 10 (original): The synchronous information reproduction apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the object information has multimedia contents selected from an image, a music waveform and a voice.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A synchronous information reproduction method of reproducing one or a plurality of object information stored in a storing section in synchronization with a clock signal, comprising: a reception step of sequentially receiving the clock signal; a generation step of generating location information indicative of a reproduction point of the object information; a reproduction step of reading and reproducing the object information from the storing section based on the reproduction point generated by the generation step; a synchronization step of synchronizing an incremental speed of the reproduction point generated by the generation step with a reception timing of the clock signal based on a reception time interval of the clock signals; and an output step of outputting contents of the object information reproduced by the reproduction step; and a reproduction point correction step of measuring a time duration from a start of processing in the reproduction step until an actual output of the object information and correcting the reproduction point in accordance with the measured time duration.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (original): The synchronous information reproduction method according to claim 11, wherein the synchronization step is stopped when a command by a user, an out of synchronism between the clock signal and the object information, or a stop of supply of the clock signal is detected, and wherein the reproduction point is generated at a predetermined incremental speed in the reproduction step.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A synchronous information reproduction method of reproducing a plurality of object information stored in a storing section, comprising:

- a generation step of generating location information indicative of respective reproduction points of the plurality of the object information stored in the storing section;
- a reproduction step of reading and reproducing the plurality of the object information from the storing section based on the respective reproduction points generated by the generation step;
- an output step of outputting contents of the plurality of the object information reproduced by the reproduction step; and
- a reproduction point correction step of measuring a time duration of each object information from a start of processing in the reproduction step ~~til~~ until an actual output of the object information, and correcting the reproduction point of each object information in accordance with the measured time duration.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium for storing therein a program for causing a computer to reproduce one or a plurality of object information stored in a storing section in synchronization with a clock signal, wherein the program comprising:

- a reception step of sequentially receiving the clock signal;
- a generation step of generating location information indicative of a reproduction point of the object information;
- a reproduction step of reading and reproducing the object information from the storing section based on the reproduction point generated by the generation step;
- a synchronization step of synchronizing an incremental speed of the reproduction point generated by the generation step with a reception timing of the clock signal based on a reception time interval of the clock signals; ~~and~~
- an output step of outputting contents of the object information reproduced in the reproduction step; and
- a reproduction point correction step of measuring a time duration from a start of processing in the reproduction step until an actual output of the object information, and correcting the reproduction point in accordance with the measured time duration.

Claim 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 15, wherein the program further comprises a step of stopping the operation of the synchronization step and generating the reproduction point at a predetermined incremental speed in the reproduction step when a command by a user, an out of synchronism between the clock signal and the object information, or a stop of supply of the clock signal is detected.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium for storing therein a program for causing a computer to reproduce a plurality of object information stored in a storing section, wherein the program comprises:

a generation step of generating location information indicative of respective reproduction points of the plurality of the object information;

a reproduction step of reading and reproducing the plurality of the object information concurrently with one another from the storing section based on the respective reproduction points generated by the generation step;

an output step of outputting contents of the plurality of the object information reproduced in the reproduction step; and

a reproduction point correction step of measuring a time duration of each object information from a start of processing in the reproduction step ~~till~~ until an actual output of the object information, and correcting the reproduction point of each object information in accordance with the measured time duration.